

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

**AF Rhode  
Island Board Meeting  
Thursday, March 20, 2014  
5:30-7:45 PM  
AF Providence Mayoral Academy  
370 Hartford Ave.  
Providence, RI**

A meeting of the AF Rhode Island Board of Directors was held at AF Providence Mayoral Academy located at 370 Hartford Ave, Providence, RI. The following members were attendance:

**Board Attendance:**

Betty Bernal, AFRI Board - Yes  
Brian Gallogly, AFRI Board - Yes  
John Igliozzi, AFRI Board - Yes  
Marta Martinez, AFRI Board - Yes  
Macky McCleary, AFRI Board - Yes  
Angel Taveras, AFRI Board - Yes  
Jeffery Williams, AFRI Board - Yes  
Adriana Dawson, AFRI Board - No  
Jorge Elorza, AFRI Board - No  
Norman McCulloch, AFRI Board - No

**Others in Attendance:**

Toby Shepherd, Mayoral Staff - Reg Attendees - Yes  
Morgan Carter, School Leadership - Yes  
Ben Smith, School Leadership - Yes  
D. Scot Kerr, AF Network Support - Yes  
Kelonda Maull, AF Network Support - Yes  
Laina Vlasnik Yip, AF Network Support - Yes  
Elsa Dure, RIMA – Yes

### **Call to Order**

Board Chair, Mayor Angel Taveras called the meeting to order at 6:14pm.

Mr. Taveras asked if there were any public comment. Hearing none, he then asked Ms. Carter to give her principal report.

1. Morgan Carter gave a report of bright spots and growth areas at the elementary school.

- a. Bright Spots
  - i. Highest attendance across the entire AF Network
  - ii. Suspensions are low
- b. Growth Areas
  - i. Math assessments are given every six weeks and teachers are working to focus on problem solving instead of showing scholars how to complete a math problem.
    - Ms. Carter is providing professional development (PD) and feedback on a daily basis
  - ii. Teachers are working on rigorous student discussion so scholars can focus on content and work through together.
    - Ms. Carter is providing PD on group discussions and rigorous scholar questions

Updates:

- Family engagement is strong and recently parents participated in class with scholars
- Math night is coming up to focus on the Common Core shift.
- The RIMA State House event will happen on March 26.
- Progress report card night is coming up in April.

**Board Business**

1. Approve Minutes of 1/23/14 Meeting  
Approve January 23, 2014 Minutes
  - a. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Directors of Achievement First Providence Mayoral Academy hereby approves the January 23, 2014 Meeting Minutes as drafted.

Moved: Macky McCleary

Second: John Iglioizzi

All in Favor

2. Approve YTD Financial Reports

Ms. Betty Bernal reported the financials to the Board and discussed the \$33,000 surplus and budget for the year. She discussed the personnel budget and Ben Smith gave background to the restructuring of the personnel budget with the Board and expressed AF Providence Mayoral Academy is in good shape. She then opened for questions.

Mr. Taveras then asked for a motion to approve the YTD financials.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Directors of Achievement First Providence Mayoral Academy hereby accepts the YTD Financial report dated 2/28/14 as presented.

Moved: John Iglioizzi

Second: Macky McCleary

All in Favor

#### Policy Review

1) Safe School Climate/Anti Bullying-Approve State Policy

- a) Mr. Kerr gave background for the Safe School Climate/Anti Bullying policy. He explained we're committed to this policy because it's aligned with our school culture policy and AF wants to adopt this policy fully and reference this policy in the family handbook. Mr. Kerr opened for questions. Mr. John Igliozi expressed he is glad we are doing this and moving forward to adopt this policy.

Moved: John Igliozi

Second: Rev. Jeffery Williams

All in Favor

2) Truancy/Long Term Absence-Approval Scheduled 5/29/14

- a) Mr. Kerr gave notice that the next policy review will be a Truancy/Long Term Absence policy. Mr. Smith expressed the importance of consistently handling long term absences and Truancy. The Board will review in May.

#### Board Discussion

Mr. Smith gave background to the Medicaid reimbursement form. He explained this process is a secondary source of funding for special education and he needs personal information from the governing board. Mr. Smith opened for questions.

3) Report From Leader Development Meeting (Macky McCleary)

- a) Mr. McCleary gave a brief report on the Leader Development meeting which focuses on goals and addresses challenges within the network.
  - i) The discussion was to make sure there is high retention of school leaders.
  - ii) He expressed there is a challenge with open positions. The network is not yet at the goal of having 1.5 leaders per open position.
  - iii) 40% goal to have African American/Latino leaders
  - iv) They're currently building recruitment strategies.

4) AF Advocacy Initiatives (Laina Vlasnik Yip)

- a) Ms. Laina Vlasnik Yip gave a high overview on Advocacy in RI and introduced herself to the board and explained she is taking on work in RI after Reshma Singh's departure from AF.
- b) She talked about the upcoming RIMA Day happening on March 26 and explained it is a celebration and encouraged the Board to come out.
- c) Mr. Taveras explained some important legislation will be taken up on the same

day and we all should be a part of it. Mr. Smith expressed this is a great city for Charter movement and he is excited about the event.

- d) Last visitor Day is on April 30 and Ms. Vlasnik Yip encouraged all to invite and encourage others to attend.
- e) She mentioned the RI-CAN report concerning Housing Aid and let the Board know RI-CAN is a supporter of AF.
  - i) Facilities funding is very important for us to grow and Mr. Smith explained AF is putting a lot of money into fixing the school that is owned by the city of Providence. This is all tied to the Housing Aid fund.

John Iglioizzi left the meeting at 6:43pm

Mayor Taveras left the meeting at 6:45pm

Brian Gallogly lead the meeting starting at 6:46pm

Mr. Gallogly asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:52pm

Moved: Rev. Jeffery Williams

Second: Macky McCleary

All in Favor

## **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 by Brian Gallogly.

**Minutes taken by:** Kelonda Maull, Team External Relations